

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SHAMBLEN et al.)
Application No.:) Group Art Unit: n/a
Filed: March 31, 2004) Examiner: n/a

For: MELTLESS PREPARATION OF MARTENSITIC STEEL ARTICLES HAVING
THERMOPHYSICALLY MELT INCOMPATIBLE ALLOYING ELEMENTS

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

The following are included with this Information Disclosure Statement:

[X] A. PTO/SB/08

[] B. CERTIFICATION

(37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)-before final Office Action or allowance)

[] C. \$180.00 FEE PAYMENT

(37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)-before final Office Action or allowance)

**[] D. \$180.00 PETITION, CERTIFICATION & PETITION FEE
PAYMENT**

(37 C.F.R. 1.97(d)-before issue fee payment)

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with
37 CFR 1.98:

[] I. A copy of each listed U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication
[1.98(a)(2)(i)].

[X] II. A copy of each listed foreign patent and/or published foreign patent
application. For each listed foreign patent and/or published foreign patent
application [1.98(a)(2)]:

a) the English language version or an English translation if not
published in English, if available (see PTO-1449)[1.98(a)(3)];
and/or

- [] (b) U.S. counterpart patents or English language equivalents of the foreign patents or published foreign patent applications (see PTO-1449); and/or
 - [] (c) a concise explanation of the relevance of the listed patents, publications or other information (see PTO-1449, foreign search report or other, attached), as it is presently understood by the person signing this disclosure, since no English translation is currently available[1.98(a)(3)].
- [] III. A copy of each listed publication, other than published foreign applications. For each listed publication [1.98(a)(2)]:
- [] (a) an English translation, if available, when the original publication is not in the English language (see PTO-1449)[1.98(a)(3)];
 - [] (b) a concise explanation of the listed publications (see PTO-1449), as it is presently understood by the person signing this disclosure, since no English translation is currently available [1.98(a)(3)].
- [] IV. For any other listed information, a copy of the information or that portion which caused it to be listed (see PTO-1449)[1.98(a)(2)(iii)].
- [] V. Each listed U.S. Patent, Publication or other information that was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, which application is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C.§ 120 [1.98(d)].
- [X] VI.** Copies of each listed U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication are not being submitted herewith pursuant to a waiver of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the USPTO on July 11, 2003 for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

This information is submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with 37 C.F.R.1.97 because:

- [X] 1.** This information disclosure is submitted within three months of the filing date of the application, or before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits of the application [1.97(b)].
- [] 2. This information disclosure is submitted before the mailing date of a final action in this application under 1.113[1.97(c)] and the requisite statement or fee is provided (see items 6 or 7 below).
- [] 3. This information disclosure is submitted before the mailing date of a notice of allowance under 1.311 [1.97(c)] and the requisite statement or fee is provided (see items 6 or 7 below).

- [] 4. This information disclosure is submitted after the mailing date of a final action under 1.113 [1.97(d)] and the requisite statement and fee is provided (see items 6 and 8 below).
- [] 5. This information disclosure is submitted after the mailing date of a notice of allowance under 1.311, but before the payment of the issue fee [1.97(d)] and the requisite statement and fee is provided (see items 6 and 8 below).
- [] 6. This information disclosure statement is submitted with the statement required for items 2, 3, 4 or 5 above [1.97(c), (d), (e)]:
- [] I, **, hereby state the following:**
- [] **Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.**
- [] **No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.**
- [] 7. This information disclosure statement is submitted with the fee of \$180 set forth in 1.17(p) [see items 2 and 3 above]. Please charge this fee and any other fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-1059. (Please note, no fee is required for items 2 and 3 above if the Item 6 statement is provided).
- [] 8. Please charge this fee and any other fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-1059.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan P. Miller
Reg. No. 48,483

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a validOMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		<i>Application Number</i>	
		<i>Filing Date</i>	March 31, 2004
		<i>First Named Inventor</i>	SHAMBLEN et al.
		<i>Art Unit</i>	n/a
		<i>Examiner Name</i>	n/a
<i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	129964/11863 (21635-0121)
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.